

ABSTRACT

A medical device for filtering embolic material. The device comprises a cannula having a lumen, the lumen communicating with a port at the distal end. A port is located on an outer surface of the cannula adjacent a distal region of the cannula, the port having a passage extending distally and communicating with a distal opening in the port. A filter is removably insertable through the passage of the port, the filter comprising a flexible tubular member, a flexible shaft extending through the tubular member, and an expansion frame mounted on the distal end of the shaft. A filter mesh attached to the expansion frame. The expansion frame may optionally include a cantilever beam to support the far end of the frame, and in certain cases the cantilever beam is flexible to avoid scraping the vessel wall during use. Methods of use are also described.